

Our ref: YAN-39

Client's ref: PA 5001PCT/US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Application of: Y. SAITO : Art Unit: 1724  
Serial No. : 10/523,535 :  
Filed : February 2, 2005 : Examiner: I. C. Cintins  
Title : FILTER DEVICE : Dated: January 8, 2007

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**RULE 97 (d) IDS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S i r:

Enclosed IDS Form PTO/SB/08 with two references cited by the Japanese Patent Office on the corresponding Japanese patent application.

The Applicant received these newly cited references on December 26, 2006. They are cited by the Japanese Examiner as teaching a cleansing tank or a screw conveyor a filtration tank in such a manner that it suspends from an upper part of the filtration tank. English translations of the abstracts or

specifications are not currently available.

Because this IDS is submitted after payment of the issue fees, applicant wish to have this IDS placed in the file, but does not wish to withdraw the case from issuance.

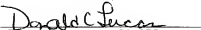
"Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement."

Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

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